

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 05008 111016Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----003754 111254Z /43

R 110839Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7143
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 5008

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, IS, PBOR, OREP (HAMILTON, LEE)
SUBJECT: BEGIN ON NEGOTIATIONS: PRECONDITIONS AND THE PLO

1. CODEL HAMILTON MET WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN FOR AN HOUR ON FIRDAY, JULY 8. SEPTELS REPORT THE GENERAL COMMENTS MADE DURING THE DISCUSSION AND A REQUEST BY BEGIN THAT THE CODEL RAISE THE SUBJECT OF SYRIAN JEWRY WHILE IN DAMASCUS. THIS MESSAGE REPORTS TWO POINTS MADE BY BEGIN DURING A DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WE THINK ARE WORTHY OF SPECIAL NOTE--PRECONDITIONS AND THE ROLE OF THE PLO.

2. PRECONDITIONS. BEGIN REPEATED TO THE CODEL HIS NOW FAMILIAR POSITION THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO PRECONDITIONS ON EITHER PARTY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS AND ISRAEL, FOR ITS PART, INTENDED TO PLACE NONE. IF, HOWEVER, THERE WERE TO BE PRE-CONDITIONS BY THE ARABS, THEN IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY
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TO HAVE WHAT BEGIN TERMED "PRE-NEGOTIATIONS." THE "PORXIMITY TALKS" BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE ARABS IN NEW YORK IN 1972 WERE AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT HE HAS IN MIND. THESE "PRE-NEGOTIATIONS" COULD TAKE PLACE IN NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, OR ANY OTHER PLACE, HE SAID.

3. THE PLO IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION, BEGIN SET OUT UNEQUIVOCALLY HIS GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THIS POINT, A POSITION WHICH CONTINUES THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT'S POLICY: "IN GENEVA, THERE SHOULD BE REPRESENTATIVES OF SOVEREIGN STATES ONLY. IF IN THE JORDANIAN DELEGATION THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO CALL THEMSELVES PALESTINAINS, WELL, THAT IS THEIR PROBLEM. WE WOULDN'T OBJECT. IT'S NOT OUR BUSINESS TO INVESTIGATE THEIR INDIVIDUAL CREDENTIALS. BUT THE PLO IS ANOTHER MATTER."
LEWIS

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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